IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

MICHAEL BLABER ET AL.

Serial No. 10/037,633

Filing Date: January 3, 2002

For: Synthetic Nucleic Acid Sequences For

2,5-Diketo-D-Gluconic Acid Reductases

And Associated Methods

Examiner: Richard Hutson, Ph.D.

Art Unit: 1652

RECEIVED

Asst. Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

The Applicant in the above-referenced application respectfully requests a two month time extension for filing a response to the Office Action mailed April 8, 2003.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee of \$205.00 to cover the two month extension request or credit any discrepancy in fee amounts to Deposit Account No. 01-0484.

Respectfully submitted

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Certificate of Service by Facsimile Telecopier

I hereby certify that this correspondence, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313, is being filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office by facsimile telecopier transmittal to Art Unit 1652, attention Richard Hutson, Ph.D. at 703-305-3014, this 8th day of September, 2003.